



WINDHAM REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Chaplin Columbia Coventry Hampton Lebanon Mansfield Scotland Willington Windham

Chairman Coleman
Chairman Sharkey
Members of the Planning & Development Committee

March 2, 2009

**RE: Testimony for Smart Growth Legislative Package
HB 6588 - AN ACT CONCERNING TRAINING FOR LOCAL LAND USE COMMISSIONERS**

Dear Chairman Coleman and Chairman Sharkey, and members of the Planning and Development Committee,

The Windham Region Council of Governments (WINCOG) is writing in support of legislation regarding **Training for Land Use Commissioners** as noted in HB 6588.

Utilizing Uconn's Center for Land Use Education and Research program for standardizing land use training by developing a curriculum for local Commissioners is quite important. Many of these commissioners are local citizens who have a real commitment to their communities, yet lack the scientific basis for making the significant land use decisions they are faced with in today's climate. Coupled with the Smart Growth initiatives, this will give these volunteers a new perspective on making informed land use decisions in the future.

Thank you for your consideration in moving this bill forward.

Sincerely,



Mark N. Paquette
Executive Director, WINCOG

cc: WINCOG Board of Directors